GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4387
ANSWERED ON:22.04.2002
PRODUCTION OF JUTE
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the total production of agricultural products such as foodgrains, oilseeds, sugar and jute was approximately 160 M.T. in 1987-88 in which Jute`s share was just 0.8%, and increased in 1999-2000 to approximately 245 M.T. in which Jute share was 0.7%;

(b) if so, whether the Jute output is stagnant at less than 1%;

(c) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(d) the remedial steps Government propose to take in this regard to assist the Jute farmers?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a) to (c): The production of foodgrains, oilseeds, sugarcane and jute during 1987-88 vis-Ã -vis 1999-2000 is given in the following table:-

(Production in million tonnes)

Crop	1987-88	1999-2000
Foodgrains	140.35	209.80
Oilseeds	12.65	20.71
Sugarcane	196.74	299.32
Jute	1.04	1.70

It is not scientific to work out production of jute as a percentage of total production of foodgrains, oilseeds, sugarcane etc. for it involves addition of non-additive crops. However, the production of jute has increased by 63% during 1987-88 to 1999-2000.

(d): To increase productivity and improve quality of jute, a centrally sponsored scheme on Special Jute Development Programme (SJDP) with 100% central assistance was in operationsince 1987-88 in the jute growing States. From 2000, the scheme on SJDP has been subsumed under Macro Management Scheme which gives States the flexibility to implement programmes depending on the local requirements. Further, to protect the interests of farmers, the Government announce Minimum Support Price (MSP) for different varieties of raw jute every year. If the prices touch the MSP level, the Government authorize Jute Commissioner of India to undertake price support operations by procuring jute from the farmers at MSP.